



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

September 8, 2015

Fire Chief Robert C. Dubé
Alexandria Fire Department
900 Second Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Chief Dubé:

I am glad we had some time to jointly share our Department's current activities and initiatives at the recent 2015 Fire Rescue International Conference. I appreciate you attending the educational session Deputy Chief Jason Jenkins and I presented at the conference on the Fairfax County Fire Based EMS service delivery model we developed and transitioned to. There were over 350 fire and EMS professionals that attended our presentations and who were interested to learn more about our system.

In our discussions following the presentation, we discussed the current transition of Alexandria Fire Department's EMS only personnel into comprehensive fire-based system model. I expressed to you then and reiterate it now, that I believe you are definitely implementing the most efficient and effective service delivery model for the residents of Alexandria and for your department. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has demonstrated that our deployment initiatives have improved advanced life support response times, increase response capacity, and we have realized tremendous benefits from having firefighter/EMTs and firefighter/paramedics training together. These improvements are a direct result of the Department transitioning to a complete one firefighter/EMT and one firefighter/paramedic (a.k.a. one and one staffing) service delivery model on our ALS transport units, in conjunction with EMS supervisors and paramedic staffing configuration on all fire suppression units.

I have included our geographical information system's (GIS) travel time maps that illustrate our before and after results once our deployment strategy changed to one and one staffing on medic units. The GIS maps demonstrate the significant improvements achieved with medic unit coverage and capability. We have experienced improvements in response times to both ALS and BLS incidents, as well as improved geographic coverage to many areas of the County.

**Proudly Protecting and
Serving Our Community**

Fire and Rescue Department
4100 Chain Bridge
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2126



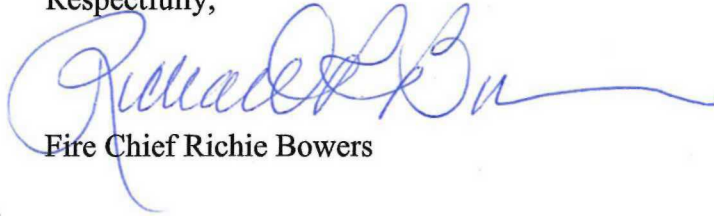
Fire Chief Robert C. Dubé

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In closing, I will reiterate the decisions I made to implement a comprehensive fire based EMS system and transition to one and one staffing on our medic units augmented with EMS supervisors and paramedic staffing on all suppression units was the correct decision for the citizens of Fairfax County and for Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and personnel. Feel free to contact me to discuss any aspects of our transition or any of the return on investments we have realized. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance as you move forward with your initiatives in Alexandria Fire Department.

Respectfully,

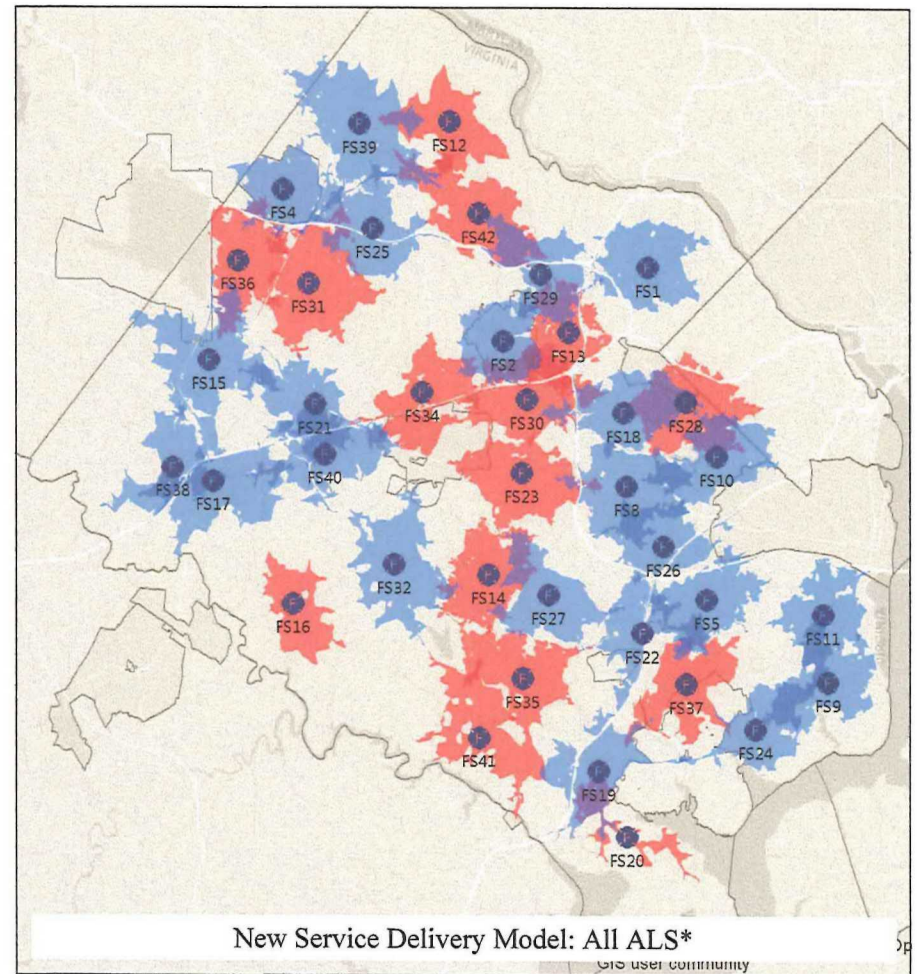
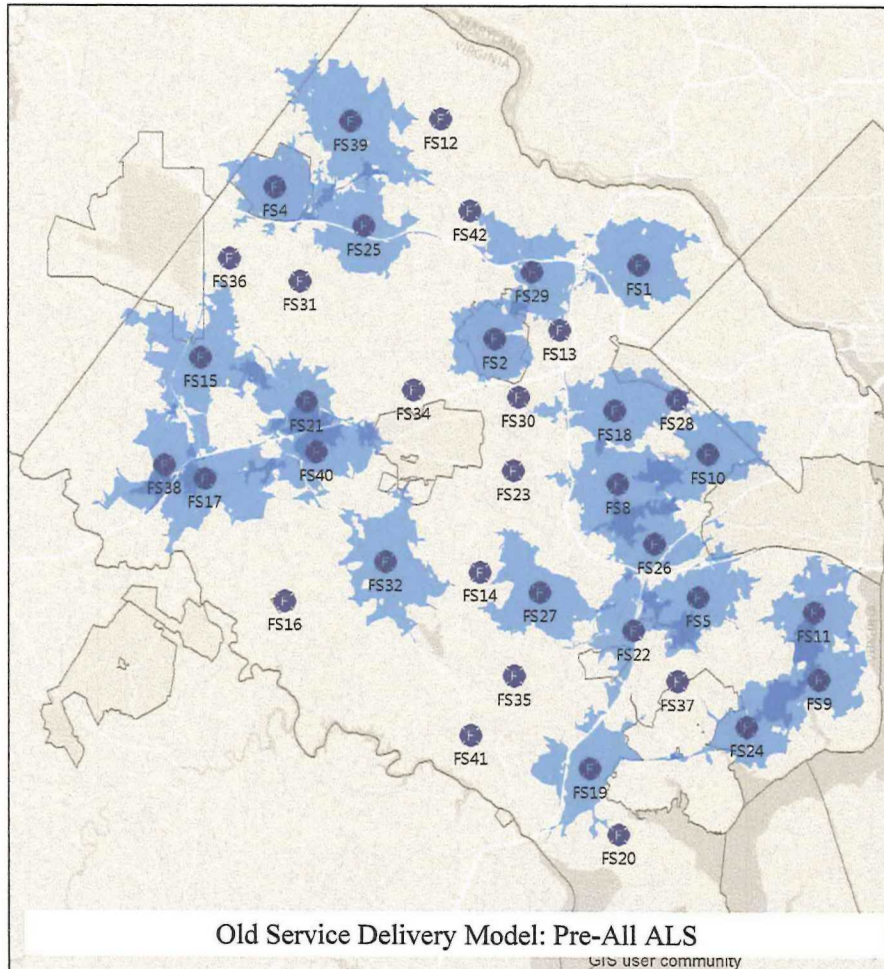
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richie Bowers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Fire Chief Richie Bowers



**Operations Data Program
Operations Bureau
Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department
Service Delivery Model: ALS Transition**

The maps produced in this report reflect the 4 minute predicted travel times surrounding each fire station. The map to the left illustrates the distance the ALS transport unit could reach from based on the 4 minute travel time. The map to the right illustrates the added capacity of ALS units once the service delivery model was changed to equip an ALS transport unit at every station.



* Red polygons represent the added areas of coverage for ALS transport units.